

of preferential duties, being based on protection, would be politically dangerous, and economically disastrous; and that the arrangements which, more than any other, would conduce to an intimate commercial union, would be by our self-governing colonies adopting, as closely as circumstances will permit, the non-protective policy of the mother country."

And the amendment as follows, moved by Sir Charles Tupper :

"Whereas the British Empire, covering one-eighth of the habitable globe, with a population of 350,000,000, can amply supply the home market with the productions of every clime at the lowest possible cost, and, whereas a national sentiment of mutual interest and brotherhood should promote more extended commercial relations between the mother country and its many colonies and possessions, Resolved :—That in order to extend the exchange and consumption of the home staple products in every part of the British Empire, a slight differential duty should be adopted by the Imperial and Colonial Governments in favor of the home productions against the imported foreign articles."

The acceptance, further on by the mover of the amendment of five per cent as the limit of the differential duty did not broaden the aspect of the discussion, or draw it out of the political party groove it had taken. The middlemen of London and other seaports who collect the manufactures of Europe, and bring them into England free of duty, hence to be distributed over the eastern and western world, as a natural result stood stoutly against any tariff arrangement likely to interfere with their business, while the bulk of the representatives of the manufacturing districts, who are now feeling keenly the loss of one foreign market after another, and the effects of the McKinley bill in the United States, stood firmly by the amendment calling for discrimination within the empire. Owing to the strong political party tinge of the discussion and the great amount of time occupied by Canadians your delegates deemed it wise not to take any prominent part therein, but in keeping with their instructions voted for the amendment; which, on a division in which each chamber or board had but one vote, was lost by 58 against 33 votes. Evidently there were a number of Ishmaelitic votes, for the original resolution was carried only 47 against 34 votes on a division being made in the same manner. Thus an amendment in favor of trade reciprocity within the British Empire met with the support of one-third of the delegations present at the second Congress of the Chamber of Commerce of the British Empire while a motion to that effect could not have found a mover and second at the first Congress five years previously. The feeling in favor of such a policy is decidedly growing, and it is sinking its roots deep in the manufacturing districts of England, where men are